While other members of this genus are not uncommon in Florida and the West Indies, the New England records for this particular species are few, and, according to Mr. C. W. Johnson,[1] are nearly all from Buzzards Bay, Woods Hole and adjacent Massachusetts waters. Although the Sea Hares belong to warmer regions, it is interesting to note that all the New England specimens were taken in *October*. The mollusks disappear as mysterously as they come, and neither the cause of their presence so far north, nor where they go, seems to have been definitely determined, although the high summer temperatures of 1906, 1910, and 1921 may be significant.

SHORE REEF HUNTING IN THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

BY CHARLES F. MANT.

Being anxious to visit the shore reefs by night on the western side of this Island, Oahu, a friend and myself agreed to start on the first occasion when tides were at their lowest.

Having made all arrangements we left Honolulu at 3:00 p. m. on October 18th., and motored to Kawaihapai, a two and a half hours trip, part of the distance being over very bad roads and trails, but our little car was staunch, and we arrived safely. After a brief meal we changed into overalls, and filled our torches—large iron cylinders stuffed with a sack for wick. Then slinging our collecting bags over our shoulders we started off along the railroad track which here follows the shoreline for some miles. The scenery was very wild, the mountains coming down almost to the shore on the one side, whilst on the other the reef-lined shore stretched as far as one could see bordered with a white fringe of surf.

After about an hour's tramp we decended to the shore, and lighting one of the torches commenced our search.

At first nothing much except a few common things were

[1] Occ. Papers, Bost. Soc. Nat. Hist., VII, Fauna New England 13, Mollusca, pp. 153-4.

found, the raised portions of reef at high-water mark being covered with thousands of *Littorina pintado*, *L. picta*, and *Nerita picea*. We proceeded a mile or so further, and then examined a rocky "flat" where the reef was full of deep holes in which brilliant little fish of many colors were swimming, whilst on the rocks were numbers of the Rough Sea Urchin (*Podophora pedifera*) the "Haukeke" of the Hawaiians who esteem this and other species as food. One had to be careful, as here and there were "blow holes" which spouted the water high into the air when a wave came in.

Presently the first "find" was made of a fine *Cypraea mauritiana*. Then a specimen of *Acanthochites viridis* was discovered on a raised coral rock. It was whilst trying to remove this shell that a big wave came in unexpectedly, knocked me over the rock, whilst my torch, collecting bag, etc. went in different directions, and a sandwich that I carried in my upper pocket was reduced to pulp! However, things were soon put right, and now we began to find the shells. In the rocky pockets were many *Cypraea caput-serpentis*, and various Cones, on the weedy rock Ricinulas, on the raised reef Chitons, Helcioniscus, Littorinas, Purpuras, nerites, etc.

The luck of the evening came to my friend who had ventured out to where the surf dashed from time to time on the large rocks, for he discovered five magnificent specimens of *Cypraea mauritiana*.

We had hoped to collect some specimens of *Cypraea reticulata* which had been found upon a former occasion, but this time we were disappointed.

It was now getting late, and the tide had turned; so we retraced our steps and returned to our headquarters, the light of the full moon making the track clearly visible.

After some supper and a change into dry things we took our blankets to the beach and slept until 5:00 a. m., being awakened by the piping of Alaska Plovers busily feeding along the shore.

The view in the early hours was very lovely, the moon still shining whilst in the distance the orange and yellow rays of the sun rising behind a bank of dark clouds with the loom of the mountains and coast beneath. For miles on either side of us

stretched the shore with the blue Pacific and endless lines of snowy surf.

We started for home at 6.30, arriving at 9:00 a. m., tired and well pleased with our trip.

Among the shells collected were:

Cypraea mauritiana L.
Cypraea caput-serpentis L.
Purpura harpa Conr.
Purpura intermedia Kien.
Ricinula horrida Lam.
Ricinula morus Lam.
Ricinula ricinus L.
Ricinula tuberculatus Blain.
Conus ceylonensis Hwass. v. *pusillus*.
Conus hebraeus L.
Conus lividus Hwass.
Conus abbreviatus Nutt.
Nerita picea Recluz.
Nerita polita L.
Littorina pintado.
Littorina picta Phil.
Littorina feejeensis.
Acanthochites viridis Pse.
Helcioniscus exaratus Nutt.
Strombus maculatus Nutt.
Siphonaria amara Nutt.
Siphonaria amara var.
Columbella zebra.

NOTE ON ALABA AND DIALA.

BY W. H. DALL.

In working over some of the minuter Hawaiian shells it became necessary to make comparisons with *Diala* and *Barleeia*, etc.

Examination of the Pacific coast species referred to by Carpenter revealed some unexpected peculiarities.

The genus *Alaba* was named by Arthur Adams in December, 1853, in the "Genera of Recent Mollusca," p. 241. It contained two species, both West Indian, of which the first, *Rissoa melanura* C. B. Adams, is now selected as the type.

The genus *Diala* was proposed by Arthur Adams in 1861, with five species of which the first, *D. varia* A. Adams, is now selected as type. This group closely related to *Alaba*, differs by the absence of varices, and generally more compact and flatsided shell. *Diala* was adopted by E. A. Smith in 1875, who figured